

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/788,389

Applicant(s)

NAKAJIMA ET AL.

Examiner

Harish T. Dass

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3693

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 4/5/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-4, 7 and 14-21.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

This communication is in response to applicant's paper filed on 04/05/2007.

Examiner's Amendment

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Thomas Jones (Reg. # 53,908) on 8/15/07.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 7 has a typo error, claim 7 is a dependent claim of claim 14 not claim 16, and, and should read:

-- 7. (Amended) The authentication method as claimed in claim 46 14, further comprising providing payment of the transaction based on the matching results at the authentication system. --

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2-4, 7 and 14-21 are pending and have been allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter allowance:

The method, system, apparatus, readable-medium, configuration and program code do not have one-to-one relations as limitation are presented, therefore the reason of allowance are written separately (essentially the limitations them selves, see underlined part.)

Independent claims 14 and 21 are allowed because the closes prior art references of Mital (US 5,903,652), and Kipp (US 5,890,136) in any combination failed to teach or render obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, a method of:

selecting identical transaction keys on screens of the terminal devices, generating different matching keys based on the identical transaction keys, transmitting the respective different matching keys from the authentication system to the terminal devices and inputting, into a given one of the terminal devices, one of the matching keys that has been transmitted to and received by another one of the terminal devices, transmitting said one of the matching keys from said given one of the terminal devices to the authentication system , and checking, at the authentication system, whether said one of the matching keys matches one of the transmitted matching keys.

The major difference between this invention and relevant prior art Mital (primary reference) is, Mital discloses encryption keys and this invention is about generating matching keys by the authentication system based on selecting identical transaction keys on screen and transmitted to terminal devices.

Independent claim 15 are allowed because the closes prior art references of Mital, and Kipp in any combination failed to teach or render obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, an authentication system having:

a first unit checking, in response to an access to the authentication system from terminal devices of the users, whether each of the users satisfies conditions for conducting a prospective transaction; a second unit transmitting respective, different matching keys to the terminal devices after identical transaction keys are selected on screens of the terminal devices, and said different matching keys being generated based on the identical transaction keys, a third unit receiving, from a given one of the terminal devices, one of the matching keys that has been transmitted to and received by another one of the terminal devices and then passed to said given one of the terminal devices; and
a fourth unit checking whether said one of the matching keys matches one of the matching keys transmitted from the authentication system.

Independent claims 16-18, 20 are allowed because the closes prior art references of Mital, and Kipp in any combination failed to teach or render obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, a apparatus, computer readable medium, configuration having:

a first unit transmitting a transaction key, selected on a screen of the user apparatus, to the authentication system, which responds by transmitting respective, different matching keys to the user apparatuses after identical transaction keys are selected on respective screens of the user apparatuses, and said different matching

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keys being generated based on the identical transaction keys; a second unit receiving a first one of the matching keys; a third unit receiving an input indicative of a second one of the matching keys that has been transmitted to and received by another one of the terminal devices; a fourth unit transmitting said second one of the matching keys to the authentication system;

and a fifth unit receiving a result of a check performed at the authentication system as to whether said second one of the matching keys matches one of the matching keys transmitted from the authentication system.

Independent claim 19 is allowed because the closes prior art references of Mital, and Kipp in any combination failed to teach or render obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, a method of:

transmitting a transaction key, selected on a screen of a user apparatus, to an authentication system which responds by transmitting respective, different matching keys to the respective user apparatuses after identical transaction keys are selected on corresponding screens of the respective user apparatuses, said different matching keys being generated based on the identical transaction keys; receiving a first one of the matching keys; receiving an input indicative of a second one of the matching keys that has been transmitted to and received by another one of the terminal devices;

transmitting said second one of the matching keys to the authentication system; and receiving a result of a check performed at the authentication system as to whether said

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second one of the matching keys matches one of the matching keys transmitted from the authentication system.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Harish T. Dass whose telephone number is 571-272-6793. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM to 4:50 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James A. Kramer can be reached on 571-272-6783. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Harish T Dass
Examiner
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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Harish T Dass". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

8/14/07